deposits as on 31 October during 1989, 1990 and 1991; and

(d) whether in view of decline in deposits the Union Government propose to review the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The deposits of All Scheduled Commercial Banks have increased from Rs.199108 crores as on last Friday of June,91 to Rs.214528 crores as on last Friday of October, 91.

The aggregate deposits of all Scheduled Commercial Banks as on last Friday of October, 89, October, 90 and October, 91 were as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
October, 1989	156520
October, 1990	181780
October, 1991	214528

The trends in the growth of bank deposits remain under constant review of RBI and Government, and corrective steps taken whenever called for.

Trade and Economic Relations with USSR

299. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the recent development in the USSR on Indo-Soviet trade; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken towards realignment of trade and economic relations with USSR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The comprehensive process of dismantling of physical and economic structure in the Soviet Union has had a negative impact on Indo-Soviet Trade. In view of this the Government is taking a number of steps to ensure that a new dynamism is imparted to bilateral trade. These steps include:

(i) Establishing direct contacts with the Soviet Republics;

(ii) Promotion of direct contacts at the commercial enterprise level including increased interaction between the business chambers of the two countries;

(iii) Greater emphasis on new forms of economic cooperation like Joint Ventures; and

(iv) As imports generate rupee funds for financing exports in the balanced trading system with the USSR, equal emphasis is being given to exports from the Soviet Union to India.

Visit of US Trade Representative

300. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHANAN:
SHRI RABI RAY:
SMT. MALINI BHATTACHARYA:
PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United State Trade Representative visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of various issues discussed between the two countries;

(c) the respective view points of both the countries; and

(d) the outcome of the discussions held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). The United States Trade Representative, Ms. Carla Hills, visited India from 4-8 October, 1991. During her visit, she held discussions on issues being negotiated in the Urguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations as well as the process of economic reforms under way in India. In respect of the Uruguay Round negotiations, the issues discussed include Trade in Textiles, Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs), and the rule making issues. On the issue of Textiles, the Indian side expressed unhappiness over the roll-over of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement upto 31 December 1992 without any improvement and sought improved market access for India's textiles exports. The need to make the process of phase-out of the MFA credible and irreversible was emphasised, the U.S. side indicated that they were prepared to examine the Indian request.

On the issue of TRIPs, the two sides had detailed discussions on copyright, trade mark as well as enforcement against infringement of copyright and differences were narrowed considerably. On the issue of patents, no new point was raised and the two sides agreed to let the matter rest for the present. The issue of TRIMs was discussed in the light of recent changes in India's policy towards foreign direct investment.

Visit of Swiss Delegation

301. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Swiss delegation visited India in October this year for developing closer economic and trade relations between the two countries;

(b) if so, the outcome of the issues discussed during their visit; and

(c) the areas proposed by the Swiss delegation for investment in India and the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A Swiss Delegation led by Mr. Rane Felber, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice President, Switzerland, visited India from 7th to 13th of October, 1991. During mutual discussions, both sides emphasised their commitment to deepen the existing political, economic and trade relations between the two countries. Besides, new areas of cooperation especially in the field of software, precision instruments, textiles and gems and jewellery were identified for potential cooperation between small and medium entrepreneurs of the two countries.

Manufacture of Light Combat Aircraft

302. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the development of light combat Aircraft indigenously indicating the expenditure incurred there on stage-wise since it was undertaken; and

(b) the time schedule fixed for accom-